



## BIG-Kent Motoring and Transport - 30<sup>th</sup> September 2011



The BIG-Kent network hosted the Transport and Motoring Event at the Russell Hotel in Maidstone on the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2011. The event was well attended by a range of professionals from transport and allied sectors and proved a valuable opportunity to hear presentations from experienced senior individuals working within and providing into the sector on the innovative opportunities and issues affecting the industry. The speakers were from the Freight Transport Association, the Kent County Council, the Transport Research Laboratory, Kier South, the Transport Knowledge Transfer Network, the MJ Allen Group and UPS (official logistic partner for the London 2012 Olympics).



**From left to right:** Dr Paul Clark (Gateway Associates), Natalie Chapman (Head of Policy, FTA), Brian Robinson (Transport Research Laboratory), Keith Knox (Kier Wallis Southern), Gunnar Adalberth (UPS), Tim Allen (MD, MJ Allen Group), Rob Furlong (Transport KTN), Bob White (Kent County Council).



## **BIG Companies to benefit from National HE STEM and EU funded specialist centres at University of Greenwich**

BIG-Kent member companies now have two additional forms of business support that can be accessed through the network, HE-STEM and the i-MOCCA project.

The HE-STEM initiative aims to give employers, employees and members of the public, easy and available access to knowledge in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. For industry, it provides highly effective routes to up-skill a workforce with specialist knowledge and give employers the ability to gain business improvement through work based learning and continuous professional development.

The i-MOCCA project is an interregional network of competence centres in the field of industrial data communication and embedded systems, funded by ERDF (INTTEREG). The project offers advanced training to industry and works to develop innovation within the field. The University of Greenwich at Medway, Kent, will be home to the UK centre as part of a 7 member EU consortium with other centres in France and Belgium. The project consortium has been awarded over €2 million and the project in total will be worth over €4.5 million. The centre at the University of Greenwich will receive approximately €0.5 million over three years up to 2014.

## **Manufacturing at Business Week Live 2011**

The BIG-Kent network supports Business Week Live at the Dover Cruise Exhibition Centre on Wednesday the 26<sup>th</sup> October.

In this climate it is essential for business managers and owners to connect with new customers however they can, to strengthen existing client relationships ring fencing them from competitors and to seek out new opportunities to build strategic partnerships and collaborations both in the UK and overseas.

Visit us at stand **160**, BIG-Kent looks forward to seeing you there.

## Exhibit with BIG-Kent at Southern Manufacturing - February 2012

The Southern Manufacturing exhibition is the UK's largest regional manufacturing technology, electronics and subcontracting exhibition. In 2011, the exhibition drew more than 6000 visitors to see over 600 exhibiting companies and organisations.

BIG-Kent member companies were given the invaluable opportunity to exhibit under the BIG-Kent umbrella, providing a high value platform to increase the profile of their company on a national and international level. The event was a resounding success for all, attracting many new business contacts and opening the doors to many business opportunities.

For 2012, BIG-Kent once again invites our members and local companies to join us in exhibiting at this event at our specially reserved exhibition space. If this opportunity is of interest to you, please contact BIG-Kent at:

E: [wj77@gre.ac.uk](mailto:wj77@gre.ac.uk)

T: (01634) 883912

*For more information on these events and BIG-Kent, please visit our website at [www.big-kent.org.uk](http://www.big-kent.org.uk)*

Follow BIG-Kent on 

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